



Camp near Fairfax Station.

December 29th, 1862.

Dear Father, Mother, Sisters, and  
Brother.

Once more I take my pen  
to inform you how I am getting along  
I have not been very well for a week  
or so but this morning I feel like  
myself again I have not been sick  
exactly but kind a dumpy like,  
they send out scouts most every night  
and as I liked the business pretty  
well I volunteered to go I guess  
that I went scouting a little to often  
I have been twenty four hours  
without shutting my eyes to sleep  
and I find that it wears on a fellow  
after awhile but I have had my  
regular sleep for a few nights  
and I am all right again now.



last Saturday night we were ordered to be ready to march at light the next morning and yesterday morning the Brigade all marched excepting a few of the sick they did not take their knapsacks with them and only four days rations they will be back at the end of that time I was going with them but the Captain said that as I was not very well that I had better stay and take care of his tent and things while they were gone so I have got quite a comfortable place here and a very good place to write. there was great excitement in the camp last night a cavalryman come to the station his horse on the keen jump with orders from Gen<sup>l</sup> Williams for every man to have his gun loaded for there was quite a large force of rebel cavalry out side of our lines



but they were riding towards  
the station at dark they were  
seen within five miles, <sup>off</sup> there and  
none of our forces this side of  
them and you can judge that there  
was some stir about it every man  
the sick lame and the lazy had  
his gun loaded as for myself I  
had two my own and one that I  
found in the Captains tent  
and a revolver besides I went  
to empty them if we were  
atacked but we were not disturbed  
it seems very lonesome since Philo  
and Smith left us poor Smith  
he is done with all his trouble at  
last many a pleasant talk have we had  
together in our tents when the camp  
was all asleep talking of the pleasant  
homes that we had left behind  
us and of the good times we would  
have when the war was over but  
alas all is over with him now



news have just come in that  
Sturt's cavalry 35 hundred strong  
passed two miles from here  
they tore up the track and  
took a few prisoners, no one  
knows where they have gone  
they have gone north of here  
but I must close by sending  
my love to you all from  
your Son and Brother

Henry Welch





Mr Luther Welch  
North Hebron  
Washington  
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